

February 12 [P. S.] I Rec^d A Letter from the Bearer for the Collector of the Tax for Somerset County & sent it to him immediately & Likewise the Letter for Coll^l Dashiell.

I am Concerned in a Brigg of 60 foot Keel, Lying in Nanticock & Launched the Other day, Deep Waisted & Pierced for the Gunns, Should you want such a Vessell will Sell on Reasonable Terms

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Letter 67

[U. Forrest, Phila, to Gov. Lee.]

I have (without being able to effect it) taken every pains to dispose of the Tob^o which your Excell^{cy} put into my hands—that Article will not sell here without it is on the spot, and Inspected: indeed the Maryland Tob^o is in great discredit; tho £130 might be obtain'd for any not of a very inferior quality.

Not being able to make sale of the Tob^o has put it out of my power to procure the Goods required. Notwithstanding every article in your list is to be had here and that too on much better terms than I expected Blanketts & soldiers Cloathing will not be higher soon, Linen & fine Cloth I apprehend will rise.

I wish your Excellency & the Council had order'd your Tobacco to this place; There does not appear to me to be any other way of getting clear of it to advantage; and I am sure the difference in Prices of the Goods required for your Army is much more considerable than is generally immagined

As there is no probability of my getting any thing done with this Tob^o I shall set of for Annapolis in a day or two where I apprehend I ought to be as soon as possible

It is impossible to say how much Injury may arise from Maryland not being represented in Congress; besides the Capital Question of laying a duty on all imported goods (with some few exceptions only & then too meerly to gratify the whim & Caprice of particular States) Congress have under Consideration the appointment of all Civil Officers the different departments have all undergone an entire reformation there is to be one more only at the Head of the four great departments who are to Rank & be stiled as follows—first the Minister of Finance 2nd the Minister at War, 3rd Sec^y of the Marine dep^t & 4^{thly} Secre^{ty} for foreign affairs. Now if Maryland was represented the Confederation could be signed which would prevent two Evils the first and most Capital is that it would exclude the Members of Congress some of whom are making Interest, or at least are named & expect the appointments, or some of them. The second and perhaps lesser Evil is that three States are now represented by one member which member has a vote, when Maryland & one other State have each a member who remain Cyphers, I presume M^r Carroll will inform you what news we have from Spain by a Vessell that arrived at this port yesterday & an Acc^t of the damage done the